

REMARKS

1. Examiner rejected claims 6-8, 15 and 16 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite.
2. Claims 6-8, 15 and 16 have been amended herein to overcome this rejection. Applicant thanks Examiner for his suggested wording.
3. Examiner rejected claim 17 under nonstatutory double patenting.
4. A terminal disclaimer is enclosed herewith to overcome the double patenting rejection.
5. Examiner rejected claim 10 as being anticipated by Mosely '756 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).
6. Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-8, 23, 26 and 27 as being anticipated by Cooper '936 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).
7. Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10-16, 18-20, 23, 24, 26 and 27 as being unpatentable over EPA 0 158 361 (EPA '361) under 35 U.S.C. §103.
8. Claims 1, 10 and 23 are novel and nonobvious over Mosely '756, Cooper '936 and EPA '361 by recitation of the novel and nonobvious feature of the inner liner being formed of an absorbent material.

Mosely '756, Cooper '936 and EPA '361 all recite impermeable materials for the inner surface. In the present invention, the absorbent surface helps in cleaning the surface of the fruit and absorbing the moisture on the fruit, such that when the fruit is removed from the fruit cleaner, the fruit is both clean and relatively dry.

Therefore Applicant submits that claims 1, 10 and 23 are novel and nonobvious over Mosely '756, Cooper '936 and EPA '361. Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

9. Claims 2-9, 11-22 and 24-27, being dependent on claims 1, 10 or 23, should also be in allowable form. Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.
10. Examiner stated that claims 9, 17 and 25 define allowable subject matter.

11. Attached hereto is a mark-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached section is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

CONCLUSION

For all the reasons above, Applicant submits that the claims all define novel subject matter that is nonobvious. Therefore, allowance of these claims is submitted to be proper and is respectfully requested.

Applicant invites the Examiner to contact Applicant's representative as listed below for a telephonic interview if so doing would expedite the prosecution of the application.

Very respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKING TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

1 1. (Amended) An apparatus for cleaning and polishing products, including vegetables and
2 fruits, said apparatus comprising:

3 an elongated outer bag having at least one opening,

4 an inner liner within said outer bag, said inner liner formed of an absorbent material, said

5 inner liner having a thickness within the range of 0.005 to 0.1 inches,

6 and means for closing and securing said opening.

1 6. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said inner liner material has printed
2 material or graphics on a surface thereof.

1 7. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein a single layer of said outer bag and a single
2 layer of said inner liner have a combined thickness, said combined thickness being within the
3 range of 0.01 to 0.1 inches.

1 8. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said combined thickness is in the range of
2 0.025 to 0.075 inches.

1 10. (Amended) An apparatus for cleaning and polishing products, including vegetables and
2 fruits, said apparatus comprising:

3 an elongated outer bag having at least one opening,

4 an inner liner within said outer bag, said inner liner formed of an absorbent material, said

5 inner liner being removable from said outer bag,

6 and means for closing and securing said opening.

1 15. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein a single layer of said outer bag and a
2 single layer of said inner liner have a combined thickness, said combined thickness being within
3 the range of 0.01 to 0.1 inches.

1 16. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said combined thickness is in the range
2 of 0.025 to 0.075 inches.

1 23. (Amended) A removable inner liner for an apparatus for cleaning and polishing
2 products, including vegetables and fruits, said inner liner comprising:
3 at least one sheet of absorbent material having a thickness within the range of .005 to 0.1
4 inches.